

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Poland

SECRETSUBJECT Chemical Training Included in Basic Training in
Polish Army

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The number of gas mask training periods was dependent on the commanding officer of the training company within the battalion; there was no prescribed number of hours set aside for chemical training.

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2. Component features of the gas mask were as follows:

- (a) Rubber face piece which covers the face and head, leaving only the back of the neck uncovered.
- (b) Rubber-flavored nose or tube extending from the mask to the canister.
- (c) Canister: contains three elements, one of which is activated charcoal; sources do not remember the other elements.
- (d) Gas mask carrier with shoulder strap.

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3. The gasses were classified as vesicant (blistering), choking, stinging, and tear. Sources did not know the names of gases but claimed that some could be deposited on the ground and others could be dispersed into the air. No practical application was given on any of these gasses.

25X1X⁴. [redacted] stated that for training purposes they had three paraffined gray-colored gas canes for use against blistering gases, and that canes in greater quantities were stored in warehouses of the HQ, 12th NOP Brigades in Szczecin.

25X1X⁵. [redacted] heard that there was sapper equipment at Brigades Headquarters Supply but that there was none at OPK #13.

6. All three had seen a drawing of a man carrying a flame thrower and also a tank flame thrower. The flame thrower on the man's back looked to them like a combat pack with a flexible hose attachment and switch at nozzle front. They did not know what type of substance was used or how much of it was in the flame thrower. They can furnish no further information on flame throwers.

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